

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 ABIDJA 10182 211237Z

20

ACTION AF-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 IO-10 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01

INR-05 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 USIA-06 OMB-01 /073 W
----- 005124

R 210700Z DEC 74

FM AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1419

INFO AMEMBASSY BAMAKO

AMEMBASSY OUAGADOUGOU

AMEMBASSY NIAMEY

AMEMBASSY LOME

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY DAKAR

AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE ABIDJAN 10182

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PBOR, ML, UV, IC

SUBJECT: BORDER DISPUTE BETWEEN MALI AND UPPER VOLTA

1. DURING COURSE OF MEETING TODAY WITH IVORIAN FOREIGN MINISTER USHER, I INQUIRED AS TO WHERE HE THOUGHT EVENTS WERE GOING IN THE BORDER WAR AND WHAT ROLE, IF ANY, GOIC HAD PLAYED IN ATTEMPTING TO MEDIATE.

2. USHER WAS OF IMPRESSION TWO NATIONS HAD SIMPLY "SLID" INTO THE PRESENT SITUATION, NEITHER SIDE HAVING INTENDED OR EXPECTED TO HAVE HOSTILITIES. THERE IS ALWAYS A POTENTIAL FOR FIGHTING WHEN TWO ARMIES FACE EACH OTHER ACROSS A BORDER, HE ADDED.

3. LONG BEFORE MATTERS BECAME AGGRAVATED, USHER SAID THAT PRESIDENT HOUPHOUET-BIGNY HAD BEEN ON THE PHONE TO THE TWO CHIEFS OF STATE
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 ABIDJA 10182 211237Z

URGING CALM, AND HE HAD BEEN REASSURED AT THAT TIME. HOUPHOUET HAS

BEEN ON THE PHONE TO THEM AGAIN IN RECENT DAYS(EVEN THOUGH HE IS CURRENTLY TRAVELING IN NORTHWESTERN IVORY COAST) AND, ACCORDING TO USHER, HOUPHOUET IS RESPONSIBLE FOR GETTING PRESIDENT EYADEMA OF TOGO TO OFFER HIMSELF AS A MEDIATOR. HOUPHOUET THOUGHT THIS WOULD BE PREFERABLE TO HIS OWN DIRECT INVOLVEMENT, SINCE UPPER VOLTA IS SUCH AN INTIMATE NEIGHBOR OF IVORY COAST, AND GOIC INTERVENTION MIGHT APPEAR LESS OBJECTIVE TO THE MALIANS. IN ADDITION, GOIC CONSIDERS EYADEMA TO BE REASONABLE IN SUCH MATTERS. IF IT BECOMES NECESSARY, USHER CONCLUDED, PRESIDENT HOUPHOUET WILL GET MORE DIRECTLY INVOLVED IN MEDIATION EFFORTS.

4. COMMENT: ONCE AGAIN, THE JUDICIOUS MIXTURE OF DIRECT AND INDIRECT INTERVENTION IN AN ISSUE DEMONSTRATES THE PRESIDENT'S SAGACITY. SMITH

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: BORDER INCIDENTS, TERRITORIAL CLAIMS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 21 DEC 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: ElyME
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974ABIDJA10182
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740372-0282
From: ABIDJAN
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19741217/aaaaaoaj.tel
Line Count: 76
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: ElyME
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 07 MAY 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <07 MAY 2002 by boyleja>; APPROVED <31 MAR 2003 by ElyME>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: BORDER DISPUTE BETWEEN MALI AND UPPER VOLTA
TAGS: PBOR, ML, UV, IC, (USHER)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005